

ABSTRACT

A voice and musical tone coding apparatus is provided that can perform high-quality coding by executing vector quantization taking the characteristics of human hearing into consideration. In this voice and musical tone coding apparatus, a quadrature transformation processing section (201) converts a voice and musical tone signal from time components to frequency components. An auditory masking characteristic value calculation section (203) finds an auditory masking characteristic value from a voice and musical tone signal. A vector quantization section (202) performs vector quantization changing a calculation method of a distance between a code vector found from a preset codebook and a frequency component based on an auditory masking characteristic value.